Calendar Changes Worry Students

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to get practical experience," said John J. Glushik G. "I don’t think the work load is worth reducing at the expense of the summer."

- Other students said they don’t think the calendar will reduce academic pressure, one of the calendar committee’s stated goals. "It’s ridiculous to think that one week will affect the amount of work people do," McGinnis said.

"The extra week will just give professors an extra week to squeeze in just one more topic," said John L. Mueller ’94.

Not all response was negative, however. "More time to do the same work is a good idea, but most people procrastinate anyway. Given more time, a few people are going to take another six-unit course, and everybody else will say, ‘Hey, two extra weeks, I won’t stress as much over the first week or after vacation,’" Atkinson said.

Mueller, who lives at Lambs Chi Alpha, said he didn’t think the proposed calendar would "affect summer housing terribly." Atkins, who is summer housing chair for Nu Delta, agreed. "I think we could work around it — it wouldn’t affect our income much."

E-mail generates large response

John S. Hollywood ’96, an Interfraternity Council representative to the Undergraduate Association, sent an electronic mail message asking for reaction to the proposal on Wednesday.

Hollywood said he received 115 responses within 24 hours. "I’ve only looked at 45 so far," he said yesterday afternoon. "Most of those like the idea of having equal length terms and lengthening IAP, but everyone has said shortening the summer by two weeks would cause very serious problems." Hollywood said he will be a member of the ad hoc committee being created by the UA to draft a counter-proposal. "The response I’ve seen [to the proposal] has been generally negative in the UA and in [Epsilon Theta], where Hollywood is a senior at Cambridge Common," Hollywood said. "Since we’re going to do a counter-proposal, I wanted to make sure we know what students want."

About 35 of the responses he looked at supported equating the spring and fall terms at 62 class days each, rather than the 67 proposed by the calendar committee.

A lot of people said generally MIT students don’t need an extra week per term — they’re appreciative of the calendar committee trying to help, but they think the damage would be far greater than any help from the proposal, Hollywood said.

One of the 45 responses was from a professor, 15 were from alumni of ET, where Hollywood lives, and the remainder were students, he said.

Two respondents said the committee’s proposal was fine as it currently stands. Two others said the school year should be lengthened, but not by two weeks. They suggested that extra days be provided by shortening R/O week.

Other students suggested getting extra days from reading periods or maintaining the status quo. Hollywood stressed that he was not completely opposed to the committee’s suggestions. I personally think the calendar committee was trying to do what’s best for students — I think the committee made an honest effort to do something good for the Institute."